

1. What was / has been your occupation before entering politics?

I was a Canadian Air Force pilot for 19 years (flying jets and helicopters) before retiring in 2016. Prior to that, I had been a Professional Engineer for 16 years.

2. Do you live in the riding and, if so, how long has it been your home?

Yes, I have lived for the last 4 years in my cottage on the shore of beautiful lac Bernard (Municipality of La Pêche).

3. What has been your main involvement with your community outside of work (volunteer activities, etc.)?

While with the Canadian military, frequent moves, extensive travel and deployments precluded a traditional community involvement.

4. In your life what event, or book, or speech, or song or even TV show has made the biggest impression on you and your political thinking?

Growing up in a religious Quebec, I had been a closet atheist from my early teenage years, but the internet has brought out the writings of Christopher Hitchens, Richard Dawkins and Sam Harris to prominence.

I was also particularly touched by excerpts from Carl Sagan's « Pale blue dot ».

I have recently listened to David Attenborough's riveting address to the RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce) President's lecture on the topic of overpopulation. This speech has made a lasting impression on me.

5. What previous politician (alive or dead, but not currently in parliament) is a role model for you?

We, Canadians, do not venerate our founding fathers to the same extent the Americans do. Nonetheless, MacDonald and Cartier deserve the merit of having had the vision of uniting the English and French colonies to form what we now know as Canada.

I also admire FDR for having had the vision of the New Deal, Tommy Douglas for bringing universal health care to Canada, Jean Chrétien for standing up to George Bush (and refusing to take Canada into Iraq) and Brother Jean-Paul Desbiens, Daniel Johnson and René Lévesque for speaking out and taking Quebec out of the doldrums.

6. What policy in your party's platform do you think matters most to the people in your riding?

Mission: Possible, the 20 steps action plan to fight the Climate Emergency is a game changing set of targets and actions that must be implemented now. I have visions of our grandchildren looking back many years from now, wondering why we were all so inept in tackling this problem.

We are all so addicted to the good life petroleum products have brought to the privileged few that we fail to act with utter disregard for future generations and other less fortunate nations who will be facing successions of failed crops, sea level rise, extreme weather events and mass migration.

7. Recent polls suggest many Canadians are disillusioned with politics. If elected, what would you do to address those concerns?

Our defective electoral system is the root cause of the Canadians' disillusionment with politics. Under the First Past The Post electoral system, we often fail to elect the party that has garnered the most votes. Furthermore, FPTP fosters a hopelessly adversarial political climate in which politicians attack each other without recognizing the need for compromise for the greater good.

Politicians are also rewarded for making electoral promises which they have no real intention of fulfilling. Justin Trudeau's promise to reform the electoral system best illustrates why Canadians are cynical as his promise was promptly dropped once elected.